

'Iran will not spare U.S. ships'

LONDON (R) — A senior Iranian official said in Tehran on Friday that Iran would not hesitate to attack U.S. ships in the Gulf, the official Iranian news agency (IRNA) reported. IRNA quoted Chief Justice Abdul Karim Musavi Ardebili as saying Iranian forces "might have hesitated to attack Kuwaiti ships because of Kuwait's proximity with Iran. But they will in no way do so to attacking U.S. ships." The agency said he was addressing a Friday prayers' meeting in the Iranian capital. Mr. Ardebili made his remarks less than a day after U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy ended a tour of seven Gulf Arab states, including Iraq (See story below). The U.S. navy maintains at least five warships in the Gulf under the flag of America's Middle East force and it often has a carrier-led battlegroup on station outside the waterway. Mr. Ardebili, quoted by IRNA, said Iran would not bargain away its demand that the war would continue until the Iraqi government was overthrown.

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Syria denies reports of coup bid

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria on Friday officially denied published reports of an attempt to topple the Syrian government of President Hafez Al Assad. An official spokesman, in a brief statement, said: "No Syrian national, including senior officials, has heard of such an attempt except from some zionist, Western media. When we hear such reports we respond to them with ridicule." The news agency France Presse, quoting Arab diplomatic sources in Paris, said on Wednesday a coup had been prepared by nearly 80 air-force pilots from a barracks north of Damascus and that 40 of them had already been executed.

PLO enlarges Central Council

TUNIS (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leadership has approved formation of a 93-member council to act as a steering group while the movement's parliament-in-exile is not in session, a PLO spokesman said. Ahmed Abdul Rahman said the PLO's 15-member Executive Committee, which has been meeting here since Wednesday night, took the decision Thursday night. The enlarged Central Council which includes all executive committee members, numbered just over 70 before a meeting in Algiers last month of the Palestine National Council (PNC). Its new members include leading Syrian-based factions. The executive committee, due to continue meeting Friday, also decided to send a delegation to Libya this weekend headed by Foreign Affairs Spokesman Farouk Kaddoumi. Abdul Rahman said: "The delegation would discuss a Libya's decision earlier this month to reopen PLO offices in Tripoli, which were closed in 1983."

Live-donor transplants performed in U.K.

LONDON (R) — Two women with lung problems were given new hearts and lungs while giving their own healthy hearts to other patients in live-donor transplant operations here. A team of doctors led by transplant pioneer Magdi Yacoub performed the operations at Harfield hospital near London, the hospital said. The healthy hearts were given to a man and a woman suffering from cardiological diseases. The operations were carried out at end of April and the first week of May. Experts have found that a lung patient's chances of survival improve if the heart is replaced along with the defective organ instead of implanting new lungs alone.

550 suspects arrested in Punjab

CHANDIGARH (R) — Police in North India's Punjab state have arrested more than 550 suspects in a crackdown on Sikh extremists, most submitting meekly to officers under direct control of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government. Punjab police chief Jitendra Singh told Reuters he had issued a list of 600-700 suspects wanted under India's anti-terrorist act. Reports said that more than 550 suspects had been arrested since direct president's rule had been imposed by Mr. Gandhi on Monday.

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King says Damascus talks deepened common outlook

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein returned home early Friday from Damascus, the third Arab capital he has visited this week, saying his talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad deepened the two countries' common outlook.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, described the talks as a "clarification of Arab air." They covered efforts to bolster Arab solidarity and to convene an international Middle East peace conference, it added.

The King held similar talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein when he visited Cairo on Tuesday and Baghdad on Wednesday.

In a message be sent to President Assad upon his return home, the King said:

"Our brotherly meeting and talks once again stressed the im-

portance and usefulness of coordination and joint work between our two countries, based on our clear vision and national obligation in dealing with various challenges facing our Arab Homeland."

He said the meeting "deepened our common outlook for unifying ranks and positions in order to be able to respond to our nations' expectations and serve our causes."

The King and President Assad held two closed door sessions at the presidential palace in Damascus and the talks dealt mainly with ending differences among

Peres lobbies U.S. Jewish leaders; Shamir fortifies stand in Knesset

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was meeting American Jewish leaders on Friday to rally support for his plan for an international Middle East peace conference that would include the Soviet Union.

The plan has divided Jewish leaders here and in Israel.

Mr. Peres arrived in New York on a dawn flight to start a four-day "effort" in New York and Washington to win backing for the peace conference that has split Israel's coalition government.

The foreign minister will meet U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on Saturday in New York and on Sunday and Monday in Washington in efforts to keep alive the peace conference idea.

(Continued on page 3)

Lebanese Foreign Ministry official arrives

AMMAN (J.T.) — Lebanese Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Fadil Al Turk arrived here Friday on a three-day official visit during which he will hold talks with senior Jordanian officials and address the World Affairs Council (WAC) in Amman on the "Lebanese problem."

Mr. Turk's talks here are expected to cover bilateral relations as well as the situation in Lebanon, informed sources said. He will address the WAC Saturday night.

Mr. Turk's visit to Amman comes amid a continuing government crisis in Lebanon after Prime Minister Rashid Karami announced on Monday that he was resigning because of his "national unity" government's failure to tackle economic problems and find a solution to the 12-year-old civil war.

As the Lebanese envoy held talks in Damascus on Thursday, scattered bomb blasts shook west Beirut where a 7,500-strong Syrian force is deployed to keep law and order.

A police bomb disposal expert was killed trying to defuse a parcel bomb discovered at the main post office, police said. His assistant lost several fingers and suffered eye injuries in the blast.

Asked about a claim by his former national security adviser, Robert C. McFarlane, that Mr. Reagan had approved paying \$2 million in bribes and ransom to try to free American hostages in Lebanon," Mr. Reagan said:

"I am having some trouble remembering that. I don't recall ever anything being suggested in the line of ransom."

He said his administration was constantly seeking ways to win the release of the hostages. "It is possible that what we were talking about was the use of money to pay people... who could effect a rescue of our people there but I have never thought of that as ransom," he said, adding, "I would suggest that never would it be termed ransom."

The president also declared anew that he was unaware of the alleged diversion of funds from arms sales to Iran to the contra rebels in Nicaragua.

"I see nothing wrong also with the joining in by volunteer groups and individuals — citizens here in our country — helping out in that cause," he said. "I see nothing wrong also with the rebels, whom he calls freedom fighters."

"There is no question about my being informed," Mr. Reagan said.

Mr. Reagan also said he had seen no evidence that "I've been mortally wounded" by the Iranian contra affair and that Americans do not seem to be unhappy about that we've been doing here."

Arab countries and enhancing solidarity among Arab people and bilateral relations, Petra said. It said that the meeting also focused on current efforts for holding an international peace conference to bring a durable solution to the Middle East problem.

The talks were preceded by enlarged meetings attended by officials from both sides. The Jordanian side was represented by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

The Syrian side comprised of Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam, Vice-President Mohammad Masharqa, Prime Minister Abdul Raouf Al Kasm and Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sbaraa. The talks were followed by an iftar banquet hosted by President Assad in honour of the King and the Jordanian delegation.

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Kidnappers' videotape shows U.S. hostage alive after 6 weeks

BEIRUT (R) — A video tape released by an underground Muslim group in Beirut shows U.S. hostage Alann Steen alive and links his fate and that of three fellow academics to 400 Arabs held in Israeli jails.

The tape, sent to Beirut's An Nahar newspaper Thursday by the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine, showed Steen in apparent good health, relaxed and wearing a navy blue t-shirt.

"Remember that our issue will always be related to the release of the prisoners in the prisons of Israel which is occupying the land of Palestine," the 47-year-old communications professor said.

It was the first evidence in six weeks that Steen was alive, after his captors had released a statement and two earlier films depicting his health as critical.

Steen was kidnapped along with American professors Robert Polhill, 53, Jesse Turner, 39 and their Indian colleague Mithileshwar Singh, 60, on Jan. 24 in mainly Muslim west Beirut.

In the last video tape, issued in the Lebanese capital on April 2, Steen said Steen was gravely ill and dying.

The clandestine hostage-takers say they want 400 Arabs freed in exchange for the captives. Israel has dismissed the demand and Washington says it will not pressure Israel into making a deal with

what it calls "terrorists."

The latest tape appeared four days after a report in the U.S. magazine Newsweek that Washington had adopted a tougher no-negotiation stance on hostages. Newsweek said hostages no longer had political value and therefore there would be nothing to negotiate.

The following day, former U.S. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane told a congressional hearing that he was forced to "play God" and choose an American hostage in September 1985 for release in exchange for U.S. arms to Iran.

He had chosen U.S. official William Buckley, but clergymen Benjamin Weir, kidnapped in May, 1984, was freed instead. It turned out that Mr. Buckley had died in captivity about three months before McFarlane made the choice.

A total of 78 foreigners have been abducted in Lebanon since January, 1984. Of these, 39 have been freed, four escaped, one was rescued and six were reported killed.

The four academics are among

28 foreigners still missing in Lebanon, several of whom are reported held in Beirut's mainly Shi'ite Muslim suburbs by pro-Iranian militants.

Those still missing include nine Americans, seven French nationals, three Iranians, three Britons, two Germans, an Italian, an Irishman, a South Korean and Mithileshwar Singh.

In Thursday's tape, Steen said his captors had saved his life by their "huge" efforts and he accused Washington of exploiting the plight of the hostages for political ends.

"Once again I show up as a witness who is still alive, a witness that was thrown by American officials with his people into this trouble," he added, apparently reading from a prepared text.

In Washington, the Reagan administration Thursday denied it had abandoned the eight American hostages held by pro-Iranian groups in Beirut.

"We have not abandoned the hostages. We still care deeply about their fate," State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley told reporters.

"I feel confident in denying any allegation that we have abandoned them."

The Iran-contra inquiry was told Thursday that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) gave \$50,000 toward a scheme to

ransom two American hostages in Lebanon for \$1 million each.

Senator Paul Tsongas made the disclosure in questioning Mr. McFarlane.

Mr. McFarlane told the congressional inquiry that the CIA had not been involved in the aborted ransom scheme, planned during 1983 and 1986 by agents of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

Sen. Tsongas said the inquiry staff had been told that "the CIA was, in fact, involved and that it spent some \$50,000 to provide financial assistance to the operation."

Mr. McFarlane said he had not been aware of this.

On Monday Mr. McFarlane said the scheme called for a ransom of \$1 million apiece for two U.S. hostages.

Investigators said the funds were put up by Texas billionaire H. Ross Perot.

The plan was first alluded to last week in testimony by the panel's first witness, retired Maj.-Gen. Richard Secord, who played a key role in the sale of weapons to Iran and the funneling of some of the proceeds and private donations to Nicaragua's "contra" rebels.

Gen. Secord also said he was involved in other clandestine operations — including the hostage scheme.

Another report said the Iranians wanted to trade Mr. Buckley's "confessions" for weapons.

"In no sense ever in my hearing was any such so-called deal ever proposed or even considered, discussed or otherwise mentioned," Mr. McFarlane said.

In return, Iran said it would not sell Moscow secret information about U.S. spy operations in the Middle East extracted from William Buckley, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) station chief in Beirut who was abducted in 1985 and died after being tortured.

Another report said the Iranians wanted to trade Mr. Buckley's "confessions" for weapons.

"In no sense ever in my hearing was any such so-called deal ever proposed or even considered, discussed or otherwise mentioned," Mr. McFarlane said.

He said the Iranians did bring up funds frozen by the United States in retaliation for the detention of U.S. hostages in Tehran from 1979 to 1981.

Mr. McFarlane said "there was a mention of it (the frozen funds) by the most senior person that I met with from the government."

"His point was to insist that this money had been held wrongfully by us and ought to be released."

Turkey denies approaching Norway on arms for third country

ANKARA (R) — Turkey denied Friday that it approached a Norwegian company to buy naval canon for a third country.

"The decision to expel the Iranian mission was a result of actions incompatible with diplomatic protocols and in violation of the Vienna accords governing diplomatic activity," the statement said. It did not elaborate.

Security sources, however, said 37 members of an underground extremist group said to be funded by Iran had been arrested. They said the group had been planning to assassinate Egyptian officials.

Turkey broke diplomatic ties with Iran in March, saying the Iranian embassy in Tunis used as a base for recruiting extremists for subversive actions.

An Egyptian Foreign Ministry

statement said Thursday Egypt was closing the Iranian interests section in Cairo, expelling the resident Iranian diplomat and recalling Egypt's sole diplomat from Tehran.

"The decision to expel the Iranian mission was a result of actions incompatible with diplomatic protocols and in violation of the Vienna accords governing diplomatic activity," the statement said. It did not elaborate.

Turkey, neither for its own use nor with any other aim, has applied to buy the arms," Foreign Ministry spokesman Inal Batu said in a statement. "Furthermore it has no such intention."

A spokesman at Norway's state-owned Kongsberg Vaapenfabrik said on Tuesday that Turkey approached the company several months ago to buy 300 naval canon but was refused because it would not state how the weapons would be used.

Kongsberg and the West German company Rheinmetall would have cooperated in producing the 20-millimetre light cannon, he said.

Kongsberg's statement followed allegations in the West German press that Rheinmetall was involved with the Norwegian firm in selling arms to Iran.

Mr. Batu said: "The efforts to place Turkey under suspicion with false and baseless accusations give the impression that those people who create them are trying to cover up their own illegal deeds."

The threat was first made in a letter to President Spyros Kyprianou signed by "Commander Nemo" who styled himself the leader of Force Majeure.

Cyprus Police Chief Frixos Yiannou told the news conference that he flew to London at the end of March to seek the advice of Scotland Yard.

British and Cypriot police concluded that the threat was real and set up a joint operation codenamed "Drifter" to trap the blackmailers.

Police took the threat seriously in view of blackmail threats made in recent years to major food companies in the United States and Europe, government spokesman Petros Vassilides said.

No dioxin has been found in Cyprus but investigations are continuing. Police sources said the group had marked maps with positions for placing gas canisters.

It said that unless the money

was paid it would release dioxin gas from hills south of Nicosia so that it would drift over the Cypriot capital.

Dioxin is said to be 1,000 times more toxic than cyanide. Small doses cause skin complaints and larger amounts damage the heart, liver and central nervous system.

It polluted thousands of acres (hectares) of land and forced hundreds of people from their homes when it was released in an explosion at Seveso, Italy, in 1976.

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Hamzeh visits Poland after WHA meeting

WARSAW (Petra) — The Polish deputy prime minister for health affairs received here Friday Health Minister and President of the Jordan Medical Council (JMC) Dr. Zaid Hamzeh and an accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, attended by the Polish health minister, the general framework for health cooperation between the two countries were reviewed. The Jordanian and Polish sides later held a meeting in Warsaw under the chairmanship of the health ministers of the two countries during which they discussed implementation of an agreement for health and medical cooperation signed between the two countries.

Dr. Hamzeh arrived in Warsaw after attending the World Health Assembly (WHA) meetings held in Geneva. Dr. Hamzeh is the WHA president for the present term.

WHA condemns Israel

In Geneva, the WHA passed a resolution Thursday blaming Israel for the deteriorating health

conditions in the occupied territories and thanking the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) for its contribution towards improving the health condition there.

The resolution also called on the Israeli authorities to grant permission to a WHA expert team, entrusted with studying health conditions in the occupied Arab territories in preparation for submitting a report to the assembly, to visit the occupied Arab territories and inspect the health conditions there.

The WHA also elected Jordan to membership of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Executive Board. The WHA has called on the WHO member states to provide information about the manpower imbalance in the health sector in order to find solutions, by providing the necessary personnel.

It also called on the WHA director general to pursue his efforts in the field of research on the impact of nuclear war on health.

Kuwait fund to loan JD 4.3m for Aqaba road

AMMAN (Agencies) — Jordan will receive a JD 4.3 million loan from the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) to help finance the construction of an important road in the Aqaba region, according to an agreement signed in Amman on Thursday.

The project includes the construction of a 26-kilometre road in the Aqaba coast, connecting Wadi Al Yitem to the coastal road in the vicinity of the industrial area in the south of Aqaba.

The scheme also includes the construction of a 6.2-kilometre road connection with the container terminal and four interconnections, in addition to flood protection works, bridges and drainage facilities.

The loan, which carried an annual interest rate of three per cent plus 0.5 per cent for administrative charges, is repayable in 19 years, including a three-year grace period.

The loan from KFAED will

cover nearly 42 per cent of the total cost of the road, according to Ministry of Planning officials. They said that the whole project, which will be completed in the second quarter of 1989, is bound to stimulate economic activity in the region and also reduce the risk of pollution.

The agreement was signed by Minister of Planning Dr. Tamer Kanaan and Mr. Bader Mishari Al-Humeidi, KFAED director.

Mr. Mishari was later received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan with whom he reviewed Kuwaiti-Jordanian economic cooperation and the KFAED's role in financing projects.

Mr. Humeidi was requested to convey Prince Hassan's greetings to Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, prime minister of Kuwait.

The KFAED, which was founded in 1961, provides financial assistance to Arab and other developing countries on behalf of the Kuwaiti government.

Sensible eating is key to avoid health problem during Ramadan

By Najwa Najjar

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN: Ramadan indulgence poses a health hazard for many Muslims fasting during this holy month. Over 90 per cent of the Jordanian population observe the traditional fast from dawn to dusk, taking in no food or water. However, once the canon is fired at sunset, an excess of rich foods is "dumped" into an empty stomach causing digestive disturbances.

In a limited survey conducted by the Jordan Times, it was discovered that the larger hospitals in Amman receive a higher number of abdominal and gastrointestinal emergency cases during the month of Ramadan.

Dr. Waled Ma'ani, a professor of neurology at the University of Jordan, who also runs the emergency room at the University Hospital, said "from 12.00-8.00 a.m., we get 40 patients complaining of abdominal and gastrointestinal pains. This figure makes up 50 per cent of the number of patients we get all day; usually digestive disturbances make up only 12 per cent of the cases received by the hospital's emergency room." Dr. Ma'ani said.

An additional 10 to 15 patients suffering from the same problem come to the Palestine Liberation Organisation Hospital daily, said Dr. Imad Khalid Mahrouq, head of the emergency room.

The abdominal and gastrointestinal pains are mostly a result of overeating and eating quickly, according to Dr. Jawad Khalaf, a cardiologist with a private clinic in Amman. "A lot of food at one time irritates the stomach and the intestines, and can cause heartburn, constipation and swelling of the abdomen."

Bonn and London at odds

(Continued from page 1)

held by West Germany but whose nuclear warheads are under U.S. control.

With the NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) still divided on shorter-range missiles, the 14 alliance defence ministers meeting in the Norwegian city of Stavanger glossed over the issue in a close communiqué.

The document said merely that appropriate global constraints on shorter-range missile systems

had pledged to back restrictive legislation defining who is a Jew in exchange for support from the Sephardi Torah Guardians (Shas), which represents mainly Eastern ultra-orthodox Jews.

Mr. Peretz resigned from the cabinet in January rather than obey a supreme court order to register as a Jew an immigrant converted to Judaism by a reform rabbi in the United States.

Likud and Labour have been wooing Shas since the cabinet split on Wednesday.

Mr. Shamir is totally opposed to an international conference.

Asked Friday if he thought the conference plan was now dead, he said: "I hope so, I hope that from our point of view there will not convene such a conference."

Mr. Peres, in an interview in Friday's Washington Post, said he saw no chance for compromise

with Mr. Shamir and pledged to gather Knesset votes to topple the government.

"I think the main battlefield is in Israel, not in Washington, and here I intend to go full steam ahead," Mr. Peres said.

The Likud-Labour squabbles have extended to cable traffic between Israel and its overseas embassies, the New York Times reported.

The prime minister's staff asked the foreign ministry to tell Israeli embassies that Mr. Peres no longer had a mandate to pursue the peace conference, the newspaper said.

But Mr. Peres' staff cancelled Mr. Shamir's message and substituted its own cable saying the idea was still alive, the newspaper quoted Israeli government sources as saying.

Much of Mr. Peres' itinerary is described as "private meetings" on which Israeli officials refused to elaborate.



PRINCE HASSAN ATTENDS PRAYERS: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan attends Friday's prayers at Hamza Ibn Amman Mayor Abdin Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh, Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Al Anini, the Kingdom's general mufti and a number of other officials. Prince Hassan listened in Friday's sermon on the Battle of Badr and its significance for Islamic history (Petra photo).

Ministry to build 40 schools with U.S. grant

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education has embarked on a JD 12 million project for building 40 compulsory schools in the Kingdom within its third educational programme.

The cornerstone of one of these schools at Um Al Hir district was laid by the under-secretary of the Ministry of Public Works Khalaf Al Hawwari at a ceremony held on Thursday and attended by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) director in Jordan, Mr. Lewis P. Reade, as well as other officials from the Ministries of Education and Public Works.

Mr. Hawwari said that tenders for 28 of these schools have been already awarded to contractors and work on preparing documents and designs for the remaining schools is under way. Work on building 25 schools will start in the coming weeks, Mr. Hawwari said.

The project is being financed through a \$30 million grant from USAID, according to a USIA press release. The sites for the new schools were jointly selected by the ministry and USAID. The schools will be provided with furniture, laboratories,

workshops and libraries as well as meeting halls and other basic utilities.

Each of the schools to be built within this programme, will be of three floors and will have a total of 3,000 square metres and capable of seating 100 students. There will be a total of 1,200 classrooms when the project has been completed, Mr. Hawwari pointed out.

Mr. Hawwari noted that these schools will be built in Amman, Sahat, Salt, Ruseifa, Khrebet Al Souq, Zarqa, Irbid, Mafrqa, Ramtha, Huwara, Eidoun, Bushra, Tibneh, Kufrunjeh, Daniah, Kuf Awan, Suf Bal'a, Madaba, Ain Al Baird, Ma'in, Russeineh, Tafileh, Wadi Mousa, Ma'an and Aqaba.

The Ministry of Public Works will take complete supervision of the construction work whose designs were prepared by local engineering firms and whose work will be carried out by local contracting companies employing locally produced building materials and Jordanian manpower.

"Mr. Hawwari" said: "The whole project" he said: "will be completed by the end of 1988."

Under the government's seating arrangement in the Kingdom's electoral law, four seats are allocated for the governorate, and four others for the districts of southern Mazar, At Qaseer, Aie and Ghour Al Safi."

Registration at 80 per cent in Karak

KARAK (Petra) — Eighty per cent of the Karak Governorate's eligible voters have registered their names at the area's various committees for voters registration for the impending parliamentary elections, according to Karak Governor Salem Al Ouda.

The governor said on Friday that voters registration here has witnessed a "welcome increase" in turnout since registration started on May 3.

Mr. Ouda did not give an estimate figure on the number of citizens who by Friday were registered at the governorate's various committees.

However, he said that the number of citizens who were registered as voters throughout the governorate until Wednesday closing time were put at 36,159.

In accordance with the 1986 electoral law, the governorate is given nine seats in the forthcoming 142-member Lower House of Parliament.

The department said in a statement that a total of 239 road accidents occurred around the country in the past week resulting in the death of three persons and the injury of 113 others, according to the Public Security Department (PSD).

The department said in a statement that a total of 239 road accidents occurred in the Kingdom, but these were this week, down by 18.2 per cent from last week. The number of deaths from such accidents dropped by 62.5 per cent and the injured by 19.3 per cent, the statement said.

Iftaa councils should give priority to community work — Crown Prince

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan chaired a joint meeting of the councils of preachers and Iftaa (Islamic casuistry) during which he urged his audience to work with the local communities in finding solutions to religious and social pressing problems.

Prince Hassan said, in speech to the joint meeting on Thursday, that preachers should be well versed on all matters relating to religion and society. He also said that the Sharia (Islamic law) faculty of the University of Jordan ought to help preachers widen their scope of knowledge and help resolve problems plugging to society.

Prince Hassan referred to contacts Jordan made with Iran before the outbreak of the Gulf war, calling for a dialogue among Islamic sects. The Iranians, he said, turned down the call be-

cause they said they were seeking means of spreading Iranian revolution's influence. He said that dialogue among various sects and ideologies in Islam is important in the endeavour to promote the Islamic Iftaa Council's work in the Kingdom.

Prince Hassan stressed the strong link between the preachers' work and education in schools. For this reason he noted, a full and detailed report on the educational system in Jordan has been prepared for the sake of drawing up a sound system that can cater to the needs of Jordanian youth and serve the future development of the country.

Irqi minister praises Crown Prince's efforts

The visiting Iraqi minister of Awqaf and religious affairs, Abdul Fadel Abbas, who was

present at the meeting, paid tribute to Prince Hassan's efforts for supervising the work of seminars and meetings on religion. Jordan has been shouldering a major role in the defence of the Arab nation and Islamic affairs, particularly in the question of the holy city of Jerusalem and Al Aqsa Mosque, the minister said.

Also addressing the audience was Dr. Nasseredine Al Assad, minister of higher education, who also referred to the general system of education in Jordan, and said that Council of Higher Education will be reviewing the detailed report on the question of the education system after the month of Ramadan.

During the meeting a dialogue was held in which Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat took part.

Queen reviews plans for Jerash Festival

AMMAN (Petra) — Preparations for the sixth Jerash Festival for Culture and Arts to be held this summer were reviewed at a meeting held Thursday under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The meeting, held at the headquarters of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, reviewed in detail the programmes to be presented at the festival in which the following countries will take part: Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Tuosia, Czechoslovakia, Spain, Britain, the Soviet Union, China, Poland, the United States and Jordan.

The meeting, grouping members of the Jerash Festival Committee, discussed the final programme of the activities to be held during the festival in which 13 different countries including Jordan will participate.

The committee endorsed the idea of organising mobile theatres for use during the festival which

will be held between July 7 and 31 and for these mobile theatres to be employed in cultural activities in other parts of the Kingdom.

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VIEW FROM AMMAN

Education: Policy proposal

By Dr. Kamel S. Abu Jaber

UNLESS we develop the proper educational policy for the present and future, our youth, like ourselves, will continue to live outside the framework of their time. This sense of alienation from contemporary civilisation, if not arrested now, will further degenerate into other mental disorders: Schizophrenia, paranoia and eventually catatonia; a process of continued estrangement whereby the body may continue to function though unrelated to the universe surrounding it. Already we tend to feel alienated from contemporary civilisation not only because of the harsh treatment we have been receiving from the West but also because we continue to resist the inevitable; the necessary developments that will enable us to live in terms with the times. There is a great amount of beauty in our spiritual heritage and glorious past that should be preserved; but to continue, as we still do, to contrast what once was with our terrible present is only a prescription for further alienation.

We need to develop an educational policy that will feature the following set of principles by which it should truly develop the capacity to reconcile the past with the present: First, to preserve our vintage heritage not as a rigid idol or item of worship but to create an impetus for developing the mechanisms for controlling the contemporary world. Second, such a policy should abandon the covert and often overt notion that there is a conspiracy against the Arabs or Islam, however true such an idea may seem at times. Because we are who we are. Arabs and Muslims, and because our

civilisation has stood and continues to stand on equal footing with Western and other civilisations, even regarding itself superior, we will continue to be the object of the thinking of others whether in adversity, conspiracy or friendship. It should be a matter of pride not lamentation that others regard us as objects of serious thought; friends, or threats to security; particularly because since the advent of Islam and even prior to that we have stood on equal footing with Western civilisations: Interacting with them in peace and more often in violence. It is only natural that we be suspect to the same degree as we suspect others. Therefore, our educational policy must concentrate on building confidence in our ability to continue to stand up and not on the apologetics of fear and insecurity.

A third principle of our policy, which also emanates from the confidence building element, should be that we teach that knowledge has no frontiers, no boundaries, either physical or mental. Because of our insecurity and frustration, a strange psychology has developed amongst us, suspicious of any idea that crosses our frontiers disparagingly referred to as "imported thought," our youth, in fact our people are exhorted to stand against it in principle and without any evaluation or analysis of its content or worth. Ideas, good ones at any rate, have no boundaries and will not respect any frontiers. If they are good we need them and should welcome not fight them, regardless of their origin. Surely we must realise that if they are good, they will force

themselves upon us anyway. Instead of busying ourselves with trying to resist "imported" ideas, we should welcome them taking care to be intelligently selective in choosing which ones to adopt. How can we logically "import" the car, the television, the telephone, the computer while rejecting the reasoning the software, the ideological and conceptual infrastructure behind it?

Fourth, our educational policies should not be only present but future oriented as well. To insure this, we must release the mind of our youth and teach it to question even the obvious, to explore, to speculate, and to develop the necessary self-discipline, self-confidence derived from experimentation not abstract thinking at all times. The content of our educational system at present perpetuates the age of infancy and the extended dependency of our youth for prolonged periods. It is a system that still considers the student as a receptacle for knowledge without a mind to analyse; a system too preoccupied with the attainment of degrees to get better, more comfortable jobs and not the attainment of the ability to solve problems. We should teach that education is a continuous process that does not stop once a degree has been obtained. Self-education means that we should provide the tools, the methodology and teach how to use them. Thus far we give our youth degrees but not the necessary tools for critical, creative thinking; nor do we develop the confident psychological make up necessary to face adversity.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: King rallies Arab ranks

KING Hussein's brief visit to Damascus and his talks with President Hafez Assad Thursday night and the King's previous meeting in Baghdad with President Saddam Hussein indicate that Jordan was continuing its active role on the Arab political scene. This role is clearly aimed at ending differences among Arab countries prior to restoring solidarity among them and regaining unity of ranks for the launching joint action aimed at regaining Arab legitimate rights and establishing real peace. The King had started his current endeavours with a visit to Egypt where he held talks with President Hosni Mubarak on means of regaining Arab solidarity. Through solidarity, Arab countries can have enough power to deal with the common challenges; and through joint action, Arab leaders can best serve their peoples and their nation. The King's efforts have been favourably responded to in Damascus, Baghdad and Cairo and this is a source of satisfaction a pride for Jordan which sees that the King is leading the Arabs towards the sound course of solidarity. This gives us hope that the future is something the Arabs can shape together as long as they are capable of confronting their common challenges and as long as they are determined to work seriously for the achievement of genuine peace.

Al Dustour: Jordan advocates solidarity

KING Hussein's tour of Arab capitals and his talks with Arab leaders indicate that Jordan is determined to re-establish solidarity among Arab countries and hopeful of ending all differences still lingering in the path of reconciliation. King Hussein's efforts are directed towards bringing unity of ranks within the Arab World so that the common enemy's conspiracies would be thwarted and aborted. It goes without saying that the current difficult circumstances the Arab Nation is going through requires unity of purpose and solidarity among Arab leaders since not a single Arab country can confront such enormous task by itself. Differences among Arab countries should be considered as temporary and cannot last for ever, and on this assumption Jordan, led by King Hussein, is trying to strengthen unity among Arabs through ending all forms of differences and bridging all gaps. Arab solidarity is required now more than ever before because of the present chance of holding an international conference which the Arabs hope will help them regain their rights and usurped lands. A joint Arab stand is therefore essential in these circumstances; and concerted efforts to achieve that stand is being exerted by King Hussein through his continuous contacts and consultations with the other Arab leaders.

Sawt Al Shaab: Restoring Arab unity

THE King's trip to Damascus, Baghdad and Cairo are designed to help the Arab countries restore solidarity and end differences that had plagued their relations for a long time. Jordan believes that solidarity is the only sound path for charting a brighter future for the Arab masses, and for helping the Arab nations to restore their usurped lands and rights. King Hussein's endeavours are therefore serving as a catalyst, helping to open the doors wide for such solidarity and a joint stand among Arab leaderships. Through concerted efforts, unity of ranks and solidarity the Arabs feel they are strong, and through sound planning Amman, Baghdad, Damascus and Cairo can form power that can be reckoned with in the continuous drive to restore Arab rights. King Hussein's visit to Damascus last night should be considered as the crowning of the most recent round of contacts he is maintaining with Arab leaders. The King's strong belief in solidarity among Arab states stems from his belief that the world community can only respect a people that has the will to survive.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Israel blocks peace

STATEMENTS coming out from both parties of the Israeli coalition government indicate that the two sides are still wide apart over the issue of an international conference. These two parties have not yet agreed on holding an early parliamentary election to decide on the issue either, and it seems that they are both bidding for time and awaiting the opportune moment. As the haggling inside the government continues, Israeli troops and settlers continue their atrocities against the Arab people under their rule, and the Israeli government's drive to confiscate land and build more settlements goes on unhindered. It is clear that the Israelis are stalling for time and they do not really want the proposed peace conference, nor negotiations with the Arabs. They merely want to show the world that they have democracy in dealing with all matters, and they will refer the subject of negotiations to the people. The situation shows clearly that the Israeli government has made the future of the international conference hanging in the balance and awaiting a parliamentary election inside Israel. Thus we see Israel's hostile attitude towards real peace has not changed at all, and we are not expecting to see either party in the coalition seriously working towards the achievement of that peace.

Al Dustour: Israeli games

THE meeting of the inner Israeli cabinet has not resulted in any positive outcome, and that was expected by observers. The meeting showed clearly that Israeli leadership is playing a game of stalling for time and aiming at destroying the chance of the proposed peace conference. The two parties in the coalition had to play this game in view of the overwhelming international pressure on Israel to accept the idea of the international conference and accept real peace. The inner cabinet meeting session showed clearly that Shimon Peres, leader of the Labour Party which seemed at first to be seeking the convening of the proposed conference, had given the international community lip service and was in reality in agreement with the leader of the Likud on undermining all chances for real peace. All that Peres was saying about his power to have his own way inside the cabinet proved a total farce and all his manoeuvres did not help him have the upper hand in government matters. The game he has been playing was designed to cheat the international community and the Israeli society itself, and his lies did not help him to even direct a threat to the Likud. The situation calls on the Arabs to take the initiative into their own hands and join their ranks to deal with the challenge.

Enter again, the champion of the liberal left

The career of Rev. Jesse Jackson seems to have been in the doldrums since 1984. Now, Stewart Fleming reports three years on about a Democrat hopeful's return to the US presidential campaign trail.

"If you know somebody in your age group who is dead because of drugs ... please stand," the Rev. Jesse Jackson, the charismatic black civil rights leader-turned-politician asks his audience of about 700 mainly middle-class white students at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

Some two dozen individuals rise and stand, somewhat self-consciously, before their peers. "Be seated."

"If you know somebody in your age group in jail because of drugs ... please stand." Another score of students including once again the corps of black males on the front row, rise.

"If you know somebody in your age group who takes drugs, stand."

As one, the audience rises to its feet. A ripple of nervous laughter runs around the hall as the students find themselves forced to confront the reality of the drug problem in their midst.

"My friends ... This pervasive sense of surrender, of withdrawal, of escape, is too much of a

dominant feature of your generation," Rev. Jackson admonishes.

It is past time, he says in an appeal to a youthful idealism which other American politicians believe is stirring, for today's generation of young Americans to join his campaign for "economic justice," just as an earlier generation of young people bled and died together in the fight for political civil rights.

"The last generation's success ... was that they made racial violence illegal... The challenge of your day is to make economic, environmental, health care and educational violence illegal."

In 1984, with black audiences chanting "run Jesse run," Rev. Jackson belatedly shouldered his way into the fight for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination launching a non-stop campaign which Mr. Walter Mondale, the man who finally won the nomination, subsequently charged had divided and weakened the party.

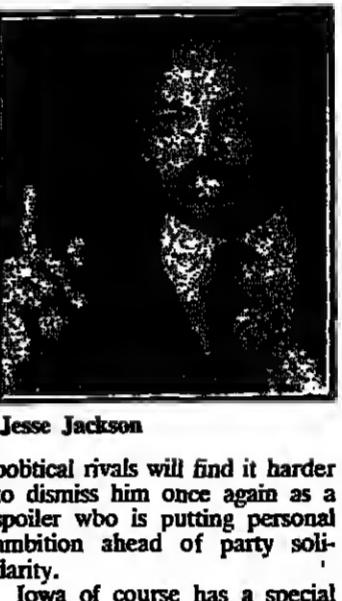
Three years later, Rev. Jackson is in the race early, a spokesman

for the displaced as well as the disadvantaged, for the workers who have lost their jobs in steel mills and for farmers who have lost their land, as much as for the disadvantaged blacks and Hispanics who he hoped would be the core of his "Rainbow coalition" in 1984.

No more than 2 per cent of the population of Iowa is black. But when Rev. Jackson set up his campaign office in the farm village of Greenfield, an hour's drive from Des Moines, 700 mainly white voters, the curious as well as the committed, turned up for the supper meeting.

That Rev. Jackson should be campaigning at all in Iowa has raised many eyebrows. But his presence in the state, as well as appearances in farms states such as Montana and South Dakota, far from the black urban masses of the north-east and the minority populations of the south, are a symbolic demonstration of his determination to try to be more than just a representative of racial special interests, easily consigned to the fringe of the Democratic Party.

If his campaign succeeds, his



Jesse Jackson

political rivals will find it harder to dismiss him once again as a spoiler who is putting personal ambition ahead of party solidarity.

Jesse Jackson's campaign has a special significance. On February 8 next year, it will provide the first authentic test of the strength of the dozen or more candidates from both parties who are seeking to replace President Ronald Reagan.

Rev. Jackson's chances of toppling the Iowa poll on that day are slim at best. But in Iowa doing surprisingly well can be as

important as winning. If he can succeed over the next 10 months in carving out a role as the spokesman for the liberal left of the party, some knowledgeable Iowans suspect that he could do a lot better than many might anticipate in the Democrats' first trial of strength.

If they are right, he could then quickly become a force to be reckoned with when 15 states in the south have primary elections and caucuses on "super Tuesday" March 8.

Then, if the Democratic field of contenders remains as over-crowded as it is today and the white candidates split the vote on "super Tuesday," as some expect, Rev. Jackson, drawing on his solid support among southern blacks, could pick up a hefty enough block of delegates to give him the powerful role at the party convention in July next year which he was denied in 1984.

Like his Democratic rivals, Rev. Jackson wants a high priority for education. But for him, it is needed not only to boost American competitiveness but also because "schools at their worst are better than jails at their best."

He sees "no reason why Washington cannot bail out family farmers if it can bail out Chrysler, Continental Bank, Japan, Israel and Europe."

What Rev. Jackson is offering at this early stage is not so much a political programme, more a populist crusade against a Republican administration insensitive to the needs of the poor and a culture on Wall Street and in corporate boardrooms which he sees as insensitive to the needs of the country.

In a nation which is losing friends in President Reagan's prescriptions for prosperity, beginning to believe again that government must be seen as part of the solution rather than the biggest part of the problem and hearing on all sides that foreigners are to blame for many of its ills, it is a crusade which bears watching.

The ranks of his supporters could swell if economic stagnation were to turn into recession. Then his critics would be watching to see whether Rev. Jackson was able to curb his inclination to play the demagogue and offer a programme for action, not just rhetoric — Financial Times feature.

LETTERS

Poor pockets

To the Editor:

We have thoroughly read the article published in the Jordan Times issue of May 12, 1987 entitled "First soup kitchen tries to fill gap in aid for needy," in which the Jordan Times reporter interviewed Mr. Na'im Qa'dan, head of the Amman Takieb for Charity. To shed more light on the issue and to reveal the truth, we would like to make the following clarifications:

1. The Ministry of Labour and Social Development supports and encourages the voluntary sector in Jordan to undertake its role in social work and social service on a scientific basis, beyond the traditional concepts which have been focused on, and for a long time. Charity as an end in itself and not as a means to enable people to stand on their own feet and to rehabilitate them to lead their lives through self-dependency. We have great faith and hope that the voluntary sector would direct its efforts in order to help people help themselves, eventually leading to their benefit and the welfare of the society at large and in accordance with the saying: "It is better to teach a person how to fish than to give him a fish."

2. Throughout the past years, the Ministry of Labour and Social Development has undertaken constructive steps in order to strengthen the scientific concepts of social welfare and work in the Jordanian society. This concept was clearly envisaged through the establishment of development centres, special institutions for the handicapped and various other multipurpose centres in which the voluntary sector actively participated in order to meet the goals of these institutions. The role of this sector is considered a natural, complementary one to the ministry's efforts in this area. As such, the voluntary sector's responsibility would go beyond the step of offering "food and clothing" to offer what can best help the human being achieve his present and future aspirations.

3. The ministry, with all its capabilities, and in cooperation with other ministries, government departments and private organisations, actively seeks to tackle the issue of "poverty pockets" through adopting the scientific concept, which does not look to momentary and emotionally-based cures, but rather beyond this, especially after the establishment of the National Aid Fund, which bears the responsibilities of protecting and helping needy families. The fund also aims at promoting reciprocal obligations and responsibilities within the one Jordanian family.

4. Errors, which appeared in this article, were quite divergent from the actual state of the Jordanian society, which is characterised by the citizens' active engagement, participation and shouldering of problems in order to put an end to the spread of any potential social problem resulting from need or poverty. We would have hoped that Mr. Qa'dan had not probe into this issue because it shows a misconstrued image of an actually bright situation. A reader of the article would be overwhelmed with the image portrayed, which conveys a sad, but unfair description of reality. The reader becomes more perplexed because the head of the Takieb had distorted facts, although we hold him above such statements.

5. The assumption that 50 per cent of the Jordanian society is "poor" is far from the truth and is a misconception of the state of the Jordanian society, especially since one of the most significant characteristics of our society is a religious one, whereby the poor have access to rich people's money, donated who have been generous, such as the Zaka alms and donations, which strengthen the spirit of social care and reciprocation among the society's members.

6. We blame the press, and we wish that it had sought the truth in relaying information instead of publishing fake data and portraying an erroneous image that is not based on relevant figures which should be the basic for journalists in their work. Finally, we would like to express our appreciation and respect to the Jordan Times editors and reporters.

Ministry of Social Development

Women's group holds balance of power in Iceland

By Thorir Gudmundsson
Reuter

REYKJAVIK — The balance of power in Icelandic politics could now be in the hands of half-a-dozen MPs from the country's flourishing women's alliance, ensconced in their headquarters in a ramshackle former hotel in central Reykjavik.

The women, who doubled their representation in parliament in the April 25 general election to six of the total 63 seats, are being wooed by their male colleagues in attempts to form a coalition government.

Outgoing Prime Minister Steingrimur Hermannsson, whose centrist Progressive Party holds 13 seats in parliament, was this week charged with trying to put together a new government.

However, the opposition Social Democrats have called for the conservative Independence Party and the Women's Alliance to join forces with them. Such a coalition would control 34 of the 63 seats in parliament.

But politicians say it could be months before the next coalition is formed. The Independence Party is Iceland's biggest party

and a member of the current ruling coalition.

Meanwhile, the women's response to the coalition proposal has been to hold daily grassroots meetings at Hotel Vik, a former hippie squat, where posters and graffiti adorn the walls and the coffee in plastic cups comes at the price of 30 crowns (75 cents) donation.

The discussions have been kept a closely guarded secret, much to the chagrin of journalists and the other political parties.

"We are not as experienced as the others — and we don't want the press to distort our position on the issues," said Anna Olafsdottir Bjornsson, who just missed getting elected to parliament for the women's alliance.

The feminists' silence has been widely criticised, but they are proud that no details have leaked from their daily 5 p.m. meetings.

When a separate women's candidacy was first announced before elections for the Reykjavik City Council in 1982, there were doubts that a political party could be formed around women's issues alone.

Five years later, the Women's Alliance has a comprehensive list

of policies, that is deliberately vague in some areas and adamant in others.

Since their latest electoral triumph, the women have found themselves in an international spotlight. Women's group in Europe and North America have asked them to speak at conferences, and reporters have called from all over the world.

The most frequent question they are asked is why a women's party has succeeded in Iceland, a country of only 240,000 people in the North Atlantic.

"I've heard this question a hundred times but I've never heard the same answer," said one neatly dressed woman in her 30s, sitting on a wooden bench inside Hotel Vik.

"Women enjoy a lot of respect here, but this hasn't been reflected in politics," said another. "There was an imbalance."

Iceland's President Vigdis Finnbogadottir became the world's first democratically elected female head of state in 1980. She supported a women's strike in 1984, but resumed work to sign emergency wage-dispute legislation when the centre-right

government threatened a constitutional crisis.

During the strike a third of the nation's women gathered in Reykjavik to protest against low wages for women.

Political observers agree that the three Women's Alliance members of parliament who were first elected in 1983 have earned admiration for their hard work in the legislative assembly.

Members of the women's group assembled one recent afternoon at the Hotel Vik said it was their position on the issues and the Alliance's democratic methods that had won them much of the unexpected election support.

"Everything we do is discussed in open meetings and in work groups, then sent to the district groups around the country. They debate and it sends back to us," said Bjornsson.

"It is cumbersome, but that's democracy. It is amazing how well it works," she said.

From land to language: An Irish town's a brawl

By Joy Aschenbach
National Geographic

WASHINGTON — A Chinese seaport is an abduction by drugging. An ancient Greek village, an endurance contest. A Pacific atoll becomes the briefest of bathing suits, and a Turkish river, aimless wanderings.

State Department Geographer George J. Demko started collecting such gems several years ago after his daughter asked what a donnybrook is. "That Irish place name made me curious about what other geographic names had passed into everyday language."

The rough, rowdy fight or free-for-all commonly called a donnybrook first broke out at an annual Donnybrook, Ireland, fair that was notorious for brawls. The medieval fair was suppressed in 1855. In more recent times, donnybrook has shifted to formal public forums, such as the floors of legislatures, as "a rowdy contention carried on between rival forces."

Spontaneous nonsense

"Will you come up to Limerick?" It was an Irish custom to sing that chorus at convivial parties at which nonsense verses were spontaneously created. On the map, Limerick is a city on the River Shannon. In its typical five-line verse form, a limerick is: "There was a young lady named Harris/Who nothing could ever embarrass/Till the bath salts one day/in the tub where she lay/Turned out to be plaster of Paris."

Among its many legacies to civilisation, ancient Greece contributes Iessian, spartan, and marathon. On the Aegean island



of Lesbos in the 6th century B.C., the lyric poetess Sappho lived and wrote among admiring female followers whose feelings for one another were reported to have been more than friendship.

The city-state of Sparta, once the most powerful in Greece, produced citizens renowned for their strict self-discipline, courage, frugality, and simplicity. The first celebrated long-distance run — from Marathon to Athens — carried the news of a Greek victory over the Persians in 490 B.C.

How do geographic names become generic words? "There may be something distinctive about a place, or a behaviour may be identified with a place, and that will stick. Over time, the word may no longer relate to the particular place, but be applied to more circumstances, different but related to the original sense," says Heather McCallum-Bayliss, assistant professor of linguistic at

Georgetown University. But, she points out, only a tiny percentage of the English language has geographic roots.

Maeander meanders

The Maeander's winding course was legendary. The river in ancient Phrygia in Asia Minor (now the Menderes River in Turkey) twisted and turned for about 250 miles before flowing into the Aegean Sea. Hence, meander.

Serendipity, that happy faculty for making fortunate discoveries accidentally, was coined by English writer Horace Walpole in the 18th century, from the fairy tale, "The Three Princes of Serendip." Its heroes wandered about, happening upon pleasant things they had not sought. Serendip is a variation of Serendib, from the ancient Arabic name for Ceylon, now Sri

Lanka. Bikini, which doesn't need even the briefest definition, was first an atoll in the Marshall Islands in the Pacific, site of atomic bomb tests in 1946. The two bikinis are linked, according to hyperbole in Webster's Third New International Dictionary, by "the comparison of the effects wrought by a scantily clad woman to the effects of an atomic bomb."

"Podunk." It may be said of any small American town with a reputation as a dull, insignificant backwater, but the original Podunk was a village in Massachusetts, or possibly Connecticut, named for the Podunk Indians.

"We don't know how it happened that Podunk is associated with a bad name. Maybe it's the sound of the word," says Kelsi Harder, an authority on American place names and a professor

of English at the State University of New York, Potsdam. "We do know that all the Podunks that sprang up across the country were small."

The scene of Napoleon's final defeat in 1815, near the Belgian town of Waterloo, is immortalised in everyday English. To meet one's Waterloo is any defeat, even if it does not equal Napoleon's.

The sleek, chauffeur-driven limousine as we know it evolved from the hooded cloak worn by the people of the old French province of Limousin. Through a "sense change," the hooded garment became a closed motor-car, originally with the driver's seat outside and covered with a roof.

Roots of sand

Gypsies from Egypt? It was mistakenly believed, even among Gypsies themselves, that they originally came from Egypt —

hence, the earlier English 'Gyprian, shortened from Egyptian. Although their origins are still somewhat a mystery, most scholars today trace Gypsy roots to India.

U.S. usage has made a verb of one of China's chief seaports. In be shanghaied was originally what happened to sailors kidnapped for duty on the China run, usually with the help of drugs.

Spa, popular usage now for any health resort or commercial exercise establishment, sprang up in the 16th century as the name of a watering place in Belgium famed for its medicinal mineral springs.

Geography is responsible for naming a variety of goods after their places of origin: cologne, hamburger, and frankfurter (German cities); champagne and cognac (regions of France); sherry (Jerez de la Frontera, formerly Xeres, Spain); wiener (Wien, or Vienna); madras, (a city in India); and china (China).

Watching for a full moon

By Salah Abdul Samad

A good number of citizens in Jordan Tuesday night held a vigil in order to see if it was a "full moon" night or not. They obviously were trying to determine that Tuesday, May 12, which marked the middle of the month of Ramadan was actually the middle day of the holy month and so deduced that they had actually started their fasting exactly on the first day of Ramadan, which follows the month of Sha'aban on the Muslim calendar.

But citizens have discovered through their observation that there was no "full moon" on Tuesday night and so they concluded that they had started their fasting month a day earlier than scheduled. Many readers contacted this newspaper and requested that we caution the faithful about the number of days of fasting which should be 30 or at least 29 within the month of Ramadan. They said that if by any chance Muslims this year decided to fast 29 days, then they would have actually fasted 28 days within the month of Ramadan itself, something which is regarded as violating religious rules about Ramadan fasting which is one of the Islam's five pillars.

The problem has arisen and could arise again any time in the future simply because we do not follow scientific principles in determining the beginning and the end of lunar or Muslim months of the year, and still prefer visual sightings of the crescent to determine the start of each lunar month. We hope that Muslim scholars will now adopt scientific methods that can put an end to such confusion.

Israeli universities face worst financial crisis

By Galina Vromen
Reuter

TEL AVIV — Cuts in government funding, mismanagement and student protests over rising tuition fees have plunged Israeli universities into their worst crisis in decades.

Once the pride of the fledgling Jewish state, Israeli universities are now \$150 million in debt and say they have no choice but to cut staff, bring research to a halt, reduce wages and hike tuition fees.

There is a freeze on hiring. There is almost a total freeze on the purchase of scientific periodicals and in the past three years no new research projects have been initiated," said Tel Aviv University spokeswoman Carol Cook.

The effects are felt by professors struggling for funding for their experiments and by students who have clashed with mounted police and been sprayed with tear gas in protests against plans to raise study fees next year.

"We used to attract quite a lot of professors from abroad who wanted to come for a sabbatical year; but we have stopped being interesting," a Tel Aviv University physics professor told Reuters.

"If you have an experiment going and you suddenly decide you want to add a \$50 gadget to improve it, there's no funding," said the professor who asked not to be named.

In Jerusalem, the Hebrew University has built a new fortress-like campus on Mount Scopus in the most massive building project in the city since the 1967 war, but it has almost no money for new library books.

They ended their strike after the government began this week to debate proposals from the education and finance ministries to set fees at \$1,100 or \$1,600.

Students say their country owes them an education after their long army service which makes them older than most students in Western countries when they enter university.

Many say they are already burdened with family expenses and cannot afford high fees.

The universities say that in addition to more money they need a freer hand in handling their budgets.

"We have very little control of our budget," a Hebrew University spokesman told Reuters.

HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN THE ARAB POTASH COMPANY NOTIFICATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION PROJECT No. APC-9

The Arab Potash Company Ltd. (APC) of Amman, Jordan, plans certain dredging works at its potash project located near Safi on the Dead Sea, approximately 180 km south of Amman and 200 km north of Aqaba-port. Amman and Aqaba are linked to the potash project by paved highway. The dredging works will be partially financed by a loan in various currencies from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). The required works shall include the following:

- Dredging in soft mud to enlarge and deepen the existing intake channel to the brine intake in the Dead Sea. Total quantity of dredging approximately 260,000m³ to a maximum depth of 11 m.
- Dredging of rock salt reefs in the solar evaporation pan. Total quantity of dredging is approximately 50,000m³ at depth varying from a few centimetres to 3 metres.
- Handover of dredging equipment on completion of dredging.

Alternative bids will also be invited for the soft mud dredging only [item (a)]. Interested contractors from member countries of World Bank, Switzerland and Taiwan/China are invited to submit the following prequalification data:

- Details of experience and performance for the last 5 years on similar contracts.
- Capability of plant and personnel to carry out the works with particular reference to dredging of rock salt.
- Evidence of a sound financial position.

The required information should be submitted in English language not later than 30/06/87 to each of the following addresses and all contractors who satisfy the requirements for prequalification will be invited to purchase tender documents and submit tenders.

The Managing Director
Arab Potash Company Ltd.
P.O. Box 1470
Amman, Jordan

Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners
427 London Road
Reading
Berks RG6 1BL
U.K.

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — May 16, 1987

8:30 Dad's Army

9:00 Classical Music

10:20 Feature Film

Promises to Keep

Sun. — May 17, 1987

8:30 Growing Pains

Employee of the Month

Mike can't face the family when he loses his job, so he pretends to go to work each day.

9:10 Doc. — On the Wheel

10:20 Miss Marple

Beneath the peaceful surface of an English country village, lurk intrigue, guilt, deception — and murder. And beneath the gentle, unsmiling exterior of an elderly, English spinster, a razor-sharp mind with an intuitive understanding of criminal behaviour is hard at work. Miss Marple — the most popular character ever created by the Queen of Crime, Agatha Christie — returns to the television screen in four more gripping two-part mysteries. Following the first enormously successful BBC Miss Marple series, the acclaimed character-actress Joan Hickson again picks up her knitting needles to play Agatha Christie's own favourite creation. This time the action takes place in the mid-1950s, a period re-created in charming style with the same eye for detail that distinguished the previous four stories.

Mon. — May 18, 1987

8:30 Ever Decreasing Circles

9:10 Moonlighting

10:20 Fair Stood the Wind for France

Hidden in the mill the three sisters come under increasing strain. Franklin's arm is worse and doctor is forced to give him an amputation. Either he goes into hospital or he loses the arm. Franklin realises that going to hospital would betray the people who have helped him, including Francisco on whom he has come to depend so much. Meanwhile, of Franklin's insistence, O'Connor and Taylor have left the mill to take their chances. The doctor amputates Franklin's arm and a period of convalescence begins.

Tue. — May 19, 1987

8:30 You Again

9:10 Yesterday's Dreams

Lucy suggests to Diana to return to him once again and go with him to the United States. The difficult choice keeps her torn, scatter-brained and fascinated between the two men.

10:20 The Unknown War

U.S. Marines

8:30 Dialogue with Muslim Intellectuals

9:10 Doc. — In Search of Trojan War

Empire of the Hittites

The Rebels — Wed. at 10:20

Thur. — May 21, 1987

8:30 Me and My Girl

9:10 The Challenge

A telex arrives for Bond saying that the Conner syndicate has been trying to buy the Australian keel design from the Netherlands ship Model Basin. Confrontation is inevitable. Commodore Bob McCullough and executives finally put their cards on the table with Bond, advising him of their opinion that the boat is in breach of the rules, and that he has requested remeasurement of the keel from the International Yachting Union, who have agreed.

10:20 The Rebels

Best Seller

Produced by MCA TV for the Operation Prime Time programming concept, "The Rebels" is the adventurous sequel to "The Bastard," both of which form part of the Bi-Centennial series of novels by author John Jakes. An exciting and dramatic adventure-romance, "The Rebels" continues the story of immigrant Philip Kent (ne Charboneau), his contributions to the cause of the American Revolution, and his personal passions.

Fri. — May 22, 1987

8:30 Bill Cosby Show

9:10 Falcon Crest

10:20 Peter the Great

The pageantry. The beauty. The majestic grandeur of 18th century Russia is recaptured in one of the most lavish, compelling mini-series ever produced for television — Peter the Great. Incomparable production values and an outstanding world-renowned cast bring to life this extraordinary saga of action and adventure. Eight captivating hours. Starring Maximilian Schell, Laurence Olivier, Omar Sharif, Vanessa Redgrave, Hanna Schygulla and Ursula Andress.

Sat. — May 23, 1987

8:30 The Big Chill

The Big Chill is a movie that's as cold as it gets. It's a movie that's as hot as it gets. It's a movie that's as funny as it gets. It's a movie that's as serious as it gets. It's a movie that's as mysterious as it gets. It's a movie that's as suspenseful as it gets. It's a movie that's as dramatic as it gets. It's a movie that's as emotional as it gets. It's a movie that's as智者所為。

10:20 The Big Chill

Starring: Jack Palance, Dennis Hopper, Sam Shepard, and Kim Basinger.

Sun. — May 24, 1987

8:30 The Big Chill

The Big Chill is a movie that's as cold as it gets. It's a movie that's as hot as it gets. It's a movie that's as funny as it gets. It's a movie that's as serious as it gets. It's a movie that's as mysterious as it gets. It's a movie that's as suspenseful as it gets. It's a movie that's as dramatic as it gets. It's a movie that's as emotional as it gets. It's a movie that's as智者所為。

10:20 The Big Chill

Starring: Jack Palance, Dennis Hopper, Sam Shepard, and Kim Basinger.

Mon. — May 25, 1987

8:30 The Big Chill

The Big Chill is a movie that's as cold as it gets. It's a movie that's as hot as it gets. It's a movie that's as funny as it gets. It's a movie that's as serious as it gets. It's a movie that's as mysterious as it gets. It's a movie that's as suspenseful as it gets. It's a movie that's as dramatic as it gets. It's a movie that's as emotional as it gets. It's a movie that's as智者所為。

10:20 The Big Chill

Starring: Jack Palance, Dennis Hopper, Sam Shepard, and Kim Basinger.

Tue. — May 26, 1987

8:30 The Big Chill

The Big Chill is a movie that's as cold as it gets. It's a movie that's as hot as it gets. It's a movie that's as funny as it gets. It's a movie that's as serious as it gets. It's a movie that's as mysterious as it gets. It's a movie that's as suspenseful as it gets. It's a movie that's as dramatic as it gets. It's a movie that's as emotional as it gets. It's a movie that's as智者所為。

Cane gives Romans reason to cheer

ROME (R) — Even in a nation heavily populated with lovable eccentrics, Paolo Cane, eliminated in the quarter-finals of the Italian Open Tennis Championships Friday, is warmly regarded as an oddball.

Despite his undistinguished reputation as a player, Cane is a national treasure in Italy where his histrionics on court have endeared him to public and the press, who have dubbed him "Papino La Peste."

Cane's philosophy of life is best summed up by his choice of doubles partner at this tournament. Advised to find a father-figure to act as a steady influence, he came up with John McEnroe.

Unashamedly patriotic, the large and excitable crowd who annually flock to the Foro Italico have not had a hero of their own since the dashing Adriano Panatta triumphed in 1977.

Cane has neither the charisma nor the artistry of Panatta, but every point he plays is pure theatre, a series of studies in farce and tragedy.

Hollow-cheeked and haunted-looking, Cane reacts to each little triumph or disaster; he laughs, he

cries he smiles, he spits he praises the gods, he curses the elements.

Asked to explain Cane's melodramatics, an Italian official shrugged and said: "He's from Bologna... he's crazy."

Cane's outbursts have become part of Italian tennis folklore like the time he launched a particularly vitriolic tirade against the Bolognese crowd for applauding him too enthusiastically.

The enterprising city echoed to a stream of similar expletives this week during Cane's unexpected progress into the last eight past the vastly experienced Czechoslovak Tomas Smid and 13th-seeded Swede Jonas Svensson.

Cane's Roman campaign ended amid typical drama against number 11 seed Martin Jaite of Argentina when he smashed his racket to pieces after contriving to lose from 4-1 in front in the final set.

Brazilian footballers to take on European teams

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Bitter feuding between Brazil's National Soccer Association (NSA) and club officials continued until shortly before the team left for their European tour on Thursday.

In the end 17 players boarded the aeroplane, only four of them members of the 1986 World Cup squad. The party would be brought up to 20 when three more players flew out later.

Football Association president Octavio Pinto

Guimaraes said.

Three clubs — Sao Paulo, Guarani and Flamengo — were in the forefront of the row with the CBF. They were unhappy about having to release players for a tour of friendly matches although the opening game against England on Tuesday and against Scotland on May 26 are for the Stanley Rous Cup.

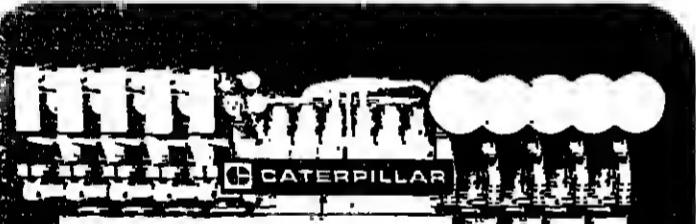
Sao Paulo President Carlos Miguel Aidar accused the CBF of holding his players under house arrest.

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Cinema

RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

Performances 3:15, 5:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema

MADLY IN LOVE

Cinema

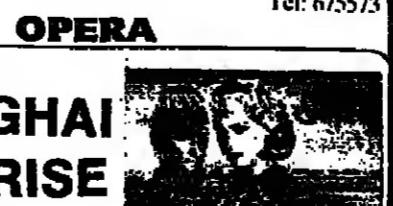
OPERA

Tel: 675573

Performances 3:15, 5:15, 8:45, 10:45

Cinema

SHANGHAI SURPRISE

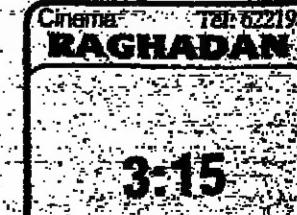
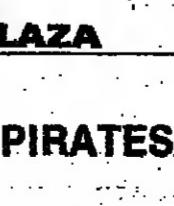


Cinema

PLAZA

Tel: 677422

Performances 3:30, 5:10, 8:30, 10:45



3:15



Michel Platini

Platini to announce retirement from professional soccer

TURIN, Italy (R) — Michel Platini, France's World Cup captain and three times European Footballer of the Year, is expected to announce his retirement from professional soccer on Sunday.

Sources at Juventus, Platini's club since 1982, said it was believed he would make his last appearance for France in a European championship match against Norway in Oslo on June 16.

Platini, 31, has so far declined to make any public statement, saying only that there will be an announcement on Sunday after Juventus play Brescia on the last day of the Italian League championship.

Platini has played in the last three World Cup finals, helping France reach the semifinals in 1982 and in 1986. But perhaps his greatest achievement for the national team was leading them to victory in the 1984 European Championship finals, a tournament held in France.

He also played in the ill-fated 1985 European Cup final against English club Liverpool in Brussels, a match won 1-0 by Juventus after a riot which caused the deaths of 39 people.

Once the darling of the Italian soccer world, Platini has come under constant attack in the press in recent months for his disappointing performances with Juventus this season.

But today sports writers and fellow players, anticipating his departure, paid tribute to him as a true gentleman and one of the greatest footballers in the world.

"Platini, how hard it is to say good-bye," ran the headline in the Gazzetta dello Sport, complimenting the Frenchman as the most Italian of all the many foreign players in Italian soccer.

The contest in Jordan starts at 9:00 p.m. at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

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Amsterdam marks Ajax win as dawn of new era

AMSTERDAM (R) — Thousands have jammed the Centre of Amsterdam to greet the returning heroes of Ajax.

Their 1-0 success over Lokomotiv Leipzig of East Germany on Thursday night in the Cup Winners' Cup final was being seen as the dawn of a new era of success for the club in European Soccer.

Over 10,000 fans, some hanging from buildings or balanced precariously on tram shelters, sang and cheered as the team displayed the trophy from the balcony of a theatre.

The area had earlier been hastily cleared of debris after rioting fans caused hundreds of thousands of guilders of damage overnight when celebrations got out of hand.

"Ajax is back at the top," City Mayor Ed Van Thijn roared to the crowd in scenes which recalled the early 1970s when the brilliant Johan Cruyff led Ajax to three successive European Championships' Cup wins.

"The great days are back. This is just the beginning," he said.

The crowd reserved their biggest cheers for Cruyff, now Ajax technical director and the architect of his young side's win, and for Marco Van Basten, whose goal gave Ajax their victory.

Ajax Amsterdam revived memories of their great triumphs of the past when they won the Cup for the first time by beating the East Germans 1-0 at a half

empty Olympic Stadium.

A first goal by Marco Van Basten proved decisive as Ajax, hoping to emulate their all-conquering team of the 1970s, struggled to impose their authority in the face of spirited opposition.

Van Basten struck in the 21st minute, meeting a right-wing cross from overlapping full-back Sonny Silooy with a powerful glancing header at the near post.

However, Ajax were unable to build on their early advantage and technical director Johan Cruyff's hopes of an improvised version of the "total football" of his heyday were frustrated.

Lokomotiv were content to defend for long period but counter-attacked dangerously. For all that, they were unable to create a single clear chance and Ajax goalkeeper Stanley Menzo enjoyed a trouble-free evening.

Ajax unexpectedly opted for Arnold Muhren, 33, in midfield and included 19-year-old Frank Verlaat in central defence.

It was Verlaat's European debut but only his second full appearance for Ajax after breaking into the first team in last Sunday's league fixture against Utrecht.

Verlaat, probably the most inexperienced player to appear in a European final, was guided through the game by impressive sweeper Frank Rijkaard. He and Muhren, who passed a late fitness test, proved the decisive players as Ajax's energy and tactical enterprise earned them the trophy.

Hoddle's magic could undermine Coventry

LONDON (R) — If Glenn Hoddle pulls Tottenham's rich network of strings to good effect at Wembley on Saturday Coventry's first appearance in an English F.A. Cup final could end in heartbreak.

Hoddle, whose appearance in the showpiece of the English season will bring down the curtain on an illustrious career with the famous North London Club, boasts a repertoire of skills most players only dream of attaining.

Former Argentine international Ricardo Villa, scorer of two of the goals which brought Tottenham their sixth F.A. Cup victory in 1981, has no doubts that with Hoddle running the show in midfield, the club can maintain their record of never having lost in the final.

Villa said of Hoddle: "Quite simply, he's one of the best midfield players in the world. He's more like a Brazilian than a European and he's the type of footballer you want to watch every match."

Hoddle personifies the aristocratic style of Tottenham. While they boast internationals in almost every position and several players who look on the Wembley Stadium as a second home, only three of Coventry's side have played there before.

Tottenham manager David Pleat is hoping that this fact will work to his side's advantage. "Coventry are playing with great spirit, but I don't know how they will react on the day in the stadium, on that grass, in that atmosphere," he said.

Coventry skipper Brian Kilcline is adamant that the "Sky Blues" will not freeze on Saturday. Confidence is sky high in their camp after a season of

success under the astute managerial team of George Curtis and John Sillett who played together for the club in the 1960s.

The Tottenham players' reputations don't frighten us," Kilcline said. "I reckon our lads will thrive on the atmosphere. If we both play to our potential it could be a classic final."

No-one in Coventry's well balanced side has thrived more on the atmosphere that success in the league and cup has brought than Cyril Regis, a former England striker who came close to quitting the game last season.

The mercurial Regis is playing as well as when he made his name by bludgeoning his way through opposing defences several seasons ago.

He and Keith Houchen, who has a knack of scoring vital goals in cup ties, should keep Richard Gough and Gary Mabbutt, two of the best central defenders in the English game, on the hop.

While Coventry favour a 4-4-2 formation, Tottenham will opt for a system which leaves Clive Allen as their only target man. It has worked so well this season that Allen has scored a remarkable 48 goals — five more than the revered Jimmy Greaves' longstanding club record for a season.

Pleat, in his first season as Tottenham manager, rates Allen "the best finisher I've ever seen," if Hoddle and company provide him with the right service then the Coventry defence will be hard pressed to stop him adding to his impressive haul.

The fact that Allen has prevented Belgian Nico Claesen, one of Europe's best international strikers, from commanding a regular place in the Tottenham team will not have been lost on the



Clive Allen

Coventry management.

But though Coventry will start as underdogs, they can draw inspiration from a thrilling 4-3 victory over Tottenham earlier this season.

Chief coach John Sillett, a big man in every sense, thinks his side can again get the better of classically Tottenham. "Getting to Wembley is very special. But it is only the start," he said.

F.A. decides not to charge Allen

Allen, who is English footballer of the year, has received a big boost ahead of Saturday's F.A. Cup final.

The Tottenham striker has been told by the F.A. that he has

will not be charged with bringing the game into disrepute over an incident in the game against Queens Park Rangers on March 7.

But Allen, who needs two goals in Saturday's final against Coventry to reach his half-century for the season, will still be hauled before F.A. officials later this month, "for a chat."

Allen could have faced suspension or a fine after being reported to the F.A. by the police.

"They had seen him making gestures to the QPR fans, but we have decided that he will not be charged," confirmed an F.A. spokesman.

"However, we have written to Tottenham ordering him to appear before a commission on May 28 just for a chat."

The threat of F.A. action has been hanging over Allen during the Wembley build-up.

Ardiles to stay at Tottenham

Ossie Ardiles has said he would be playing again for English First Division club Tottenham next season.

The 34-year-old Argentinian midfielder, who will turn out for Tottenham in Saturday's F.A. Cup final at Wembley, has been offered a new contract.

But Ardiles said Thursday: "I have been offered a new contract for a year. We are still discussing it, but I want to stay and I will sign it."

He added: "Looking back I could have returned to Argentina or gone to some other places, but I have no regrets at all about staying here for so many years."

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Friday.

One Sterling	1.6770/80	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.3370/80	Canadian dollar
	1.7825/55	West German marks
	2.0950/0105	Dutch guilders
	1.4640/50	Swiss francs
	36.97/37.00	Belgian francs
	5.9500/50	French francs
	1292/1293	Italian lira
	139.40/50	Japanese yen
	6.2350/2400	Swedish crown
	6.6350/6400	Norwegian crowns
	6.7025/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	465.60/466.10	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices were mixed in late trading after an earlier surge pushed the FTSE 100 share index through the 2,200 level for the first time. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was up just 9.6 points at 2,189.6 after touching a new record high of 2,202.4 at 1100 GMT.

Dealers said trading continued to be thin and mainly interprofessional, with the lower Wall Street opening giving many operators an excuse to take profits.

Wall Street tended lower on inflation fears after the April U.S. producer prices index showed a larger than expected 0.7 per cent rise and a 1/4 point hike in prime rate by Chase Manhattan bank.

Dealers said the London market was continuing to move ahead on speculation of a ruling Conservative Party win in the June 11 general election and optimism about the U.K. economy.

Speculation that the Tories would win the election was reinforced on Friday by a new opinion poll in the Evening Standard, giving the Tories an 18 per cent lead over opposition Labour.

U.K. retail price index figures for April, which showed higher than expected inflation of 4.2 per cent, failed to have much effect on a still fundamentally bullish market, dealers said.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Whatever big plans you want to put into motion have a good chance of working now. Use care today in decisions, as judgments are likely to be warped.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) An experienced business person can assist you with some vocational problem. Get your much-needed rest tonight.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) State your aims to a recent acquaintance and accept any help you're offered. Get rid of your depression.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can gain greater benefits now from routine activities. It's not the best time to go after personal wishes.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Contact one who can arrange a pleasurable time for you. Don't ask favors from people of prominence.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Show that you are willing to do your share of tasks around the house. Don't try to force your mate into anything.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Outline your plans to a good friend who can help you. Steer clear of an angry co-worker. Keep out of trouble.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) An expert can give you good advice for property improvement. Don't do anything to spoil your public prestige.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be careful in communicating with others. If you have visits to make, handle them in the morning.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get into those matters that will help build your security. Take time to do the necessary shopping.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Go after your personal aims of importance and get good results. Invest some time in your social life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be very practical in the handling of your affairs. Do whatever will please your mate today.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have some worldly situations that can be handled in a most efficient way. Study your income now.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... be, or she, will be a delightful young person and will want to make a great deal of money. Encourage this child's wish for good education. Be sure that good health habits are taught early in life. Your progeny will relegate pleasure to the latter part of life.

THE Daily Crossword



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1. Somewhat soft.	2. A US verb.	3. Give for a while.	4. Women of other race.	5. "Honesty is the best policy."	6. Greenleaf development.	7. Hardly heroic.	8. Good.	9. Exploit.	10. Workers with a cause.	11. Strong.	12. Inattentive.	13. Large desert.	14. Colors.	15. Comes to mind.	16. Comes in line.	17. Son of Zeus.
18. "Visor".	19. Shallow valley.	20. Standardized.	21. Tree.	22. Shrub.	23. Seeds.	24. Roots.	25. Roots.	26. Roots.	27. Roots.	28. Roots.	29. Roots.	30. Roots.	31. Roots.	32. Roots.	33. Roots.	34. Roots.
35. Roots.	36. Roots.	37. Roots.	38. Roots.	39. Roots.	40. Roots.	41. Roots.	42. Roots.	43. Roots.	44. Roots.	45. Roots.	46. Roots.	47. Roots.	48. Roots.	49. Roots.	50. Roots.	51. Roots.
52. Roots.	53. Roots.	54. Roots.	55. Roots.	56. Roots.	57. Roots.	58. Roots.	59. Roots.	60. Roots.	61. Roots.	62. Roots.	63. Roots.	64. Roots.	65. Roots.	66. Roots.	67. Roots.	68. Roots.
69. Roots.	70. Roots.	71. Roots.	72. Roots.	73. Roots.	74. Roots.	75. Roots.	76. Roots.	77. Roots.	78. Roots.	79. Roots.	80. Roots.	81. Roots.	82. Roots.	83. Roots.	84. Roots.	85. Roots.
86. Roots.	87. Roots.	88. Roots.	89. Roots.	90. Roots.	91. Roots.	92. Roots.	93. Roots.	94. Roots.	95. Roots.	96. Roots.	97. Roots.	98. Roots.	99. Roots.	100. Roots.		

Foreign banks in UAE show modest recovery

ABU DHABI (R) — Foreign banks in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are showing first signs of improving earnings after a sharp decline caused by the Middle East recession and a mounting volume of non-performing loans.

The UAE's 29 foreign banks, whose branches mushroomed during the 1970s oil boom, piled up more than 100 million dirhams (\$27 million) in losses during 1985 as loans soured and new business dried up.

But, along with local banks, the majority showed a modest improvement last year and bankers said they expect an upturn in 1987 profits despite still tough business conditions.

"Last year was a year of consolidation, of tidying up the smaller bad loans and introducing new products," said one foreign banker. "This year should see a real turnaround."

A Renter survey shows that 25 foreign bank branches to have, reported 1986 results, nine lost a total of 81 million dirhams (\$22 million) and six made net profits of less than one million dirhams (\$27,000) each.

Still, 18 did better than in 1985 and aggregate profits edged up slightly to 130 million dirhams (\$35 million) from 124 million (\$34 million) in 1985.

The foreign banking sector has shrunk considerably. American Express has wound up lending altogether, reporting zero loans and advances at end-1986.

Banks refuse to help Arab steel plant

BAHRAIN (R) — Creditor banks owed \$170 million by a struggling pan-Arab iron pellet plant have rejected a settlement offer asking them to write off more than half the debt, banking sources said Thursday.

The Bahrain-based Arab Iron and Steel Company (AISCO), which has been idle for about a year, had offered to pay \$69 million to bank creditors immediately if they agreed to write off the remaining amount.

One banker said: "We have rejected the offer but have not yet finalised our own proposals. We may finalise our position at a meeting scheduled for next week."

An AISCO source said the \$300 million plant, which started production in 1984, was still viable but could not restart operations until the burden of its loans was lifted.

"The market was such that we couldn't meet our commitments and we are negotiating with the banks now to solve the problem," the source said.

"We want to begin operating the plant again but the burden of our loans prevents this," the source added.

Bankers said a consortium of nine local and foreign banks had guaranteed AISCO's purchase of \$159 million worth of machinery and equipment to the Export Guarantees Bank of Japan.

The sum has since grown with interest and an earlier rescheduling.

Bankers said they were waiting before finalising counter-proposals on debt in case a buyer for AISCO comes forward.

AISCO is owned by companies and state agencies in Bahrain, Kuwait and Jordan.

The company source said a study by British Steel Corporation showed the plant, with an annual capacity of four million tonnes, was still viable.

"Projections for demand in the Gulf and elsewhere during the next 15 to 17 years indicate the company is viable and the plant should be run," he said.

Danes slash oil consumption

PARIS (R) — Denmark's dependence on imported oil for its energy requirements has been slashed by about a third since 1973, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said Friday.

Its oil imports had dropped to 56 per cent of its total primary energy requirement in 1985 from 89 per cent in 1973, the IEA said in its latest annual review of Danish energy policy.

Despite a rise in demand between 1984 and 1985, the government was successful in reducing oil consumption by two per cent in 1986, primarily through maintaining and even increasing taxes, it said.

Danish gas production was equivalent to nearly a million tonnes of oil in 1985 after the first year of production in 1984 yielded an equivalent of 210,000 tonnes.

Malta to give weight to private sector

VALLETTA (R) — Malta's new conservative government is pinning its hopes on private and foreign investment to raise living standards into line with Western Europe.

The programme of the Nationalist Party, voted into power in elections last Saturday after 16 years of Socialist Labour rule, promises "serious incentives" for foreign investment.

It also plans to promote winter tourism, yacht marinas and encourage international banks and companies to base themselves in Malta.

"Malta will no longer be the maverick of the Mediterranean," new Prime Minister Edward Fenech Adami said after taking office.

"We have to eliminate the stranglehold of the state side of the economy in Malta and we will give due weight to the private sector," he said.

The tiny, rocky island state with a population of 340,000 also has its eye on developing offshore banking.

Malta now has just one offshore bank but central bank officials say more than eight se-

U.S. Congress increases debt ceiling to \$2.3 trillion

WASHINGTON (R) — Congress on Thursday approved an emergency \$20 billion increase in the ceiling on the federal debt to a record \$2.32 trillion to allow the U.S. government to pay its bills.

The Senate passed the measure on a vote of 56 to 36 one day after the House of Representatives approved the same increase. It now goes to President Reagan for his signature.

The action averts a possible federal obligation on May 28 and disruptions in federal financing.

The passage of the temporary increase to carry government borrowing needs through July 17 occurred only after President Reagan agreed to support an effort by Senator Phil Gramm, a Texas Republican, to reform the federal budget process.

Mr. Gramm agreed to withhold his controversial budget amendments until the debt ceiling extension comes up for another vote in July.

At midnight Friday the permanent debt ceiling would have been \$2.1 trillion from a temporary level of \$2.3 trillion.

Without the increase, the government

Fijian coup leader calls on world to support new regime

SUVA (R) — Lieutenant-Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka said Friday a council of ministers appointed after a bloodless coup was in complete control of Fiji and called on the outside world to support the new regime.

"It is clear that the people of Fiji have accepted what has happened and are prepared to co-operate in the national interests of Fiji and the over-riding interest of peace," Col. Rabuka told reporters after the council held its first meeting.

Col. Rabuka appointed the council after storming parliament Thursday and abducting Prime Minister Timoci Bavadra and the cabinet of his left-leaning, ethnic Indian-dominated coalition.

Dressed in the traditional Fijian army officer's uniform of a Sulu (wrap-around skirt) Rabuka told a news conference the council of 16 ministers was in complete control.

"I would expect that since the military government is in full control and is effectively running the country in an atmosphere of peace and calm that countries with whom we have diplomatic relations should recognise this new government," Col. Rabuka said.

Groups of Fijians, including leading Alliance members, have held street demonstrations since the poll demanding that traditional power be restored to the indigenous people.

Col. Rabuka sought to reassure the majority ethnic Indian com-

munity that he had their interests at heart.

"I reassure our nation, and especially our Indian citizens and those of other races, that the protection of their lives and property is our top priority," Col. Rabuka said.

Parliament buildings were surrounded by heavily-armed militiamen. Troops patrolled the streets of the capital.

Col. Rabuka reminded foreign powers that the United Nations charter reaffirmed the right of self-determination and non-interference by other states in domestic affairs.

Col. Rabuka's military government has not been recognised by any foreign government though he talked to heads of diplomatic corps in Suva Thursday.

He said his military regime was making efforts to normalise the situation and return the country to democratic rule. He cautioned the two English-language newspapers, the Fiji Times and the Fiji Sun, and their subsidiaries to stop publishing until further notice, official sources said. Both newspapers carried editorials Friday criticising the military takeover.

Col. Rabuka has said he launched the coup to preempt the

Bavadra government from calling out the military to quell Fijian unrest.

Mr. Bavadra, under house arrest after his release Friday from a military barracks, said there was "absolutely no reason" to justify the coup and denied he had intended to use the army against the people.

The United States Thursday denounced the military coup and urged a prompt return to democracy.

The United States is profoundly disturbed whenever a democratically elected government is removed by force," State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley told reporters.

"We hope Fiji will return to democratic government as soon as possible."

In Noumea, French Overseas Territories Minister Bernard Pons described the coup in Fiji as worrying and said it highlighted the importance of France staying in the Pacific as a bulwark against instability.

This type of event risks provoking signs of tension in the region, Mr. Pons told reporters during a visit to the French South Pacific territory of New Caledonia.

He said the military coup in Fiji "demonstrated that the risk of destabilisation does not come from France's presence in New Caledonia."

On the contrary, this presence is an element of stability as

France is the guarantor of democracy," he added.

British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe urged a return to democracy in Fiji and the Commonwealth condemned the army takeover there.

After consulting cabinet colleagues, Howe issued a statement calling for the restoration of the recently-elected Fijian government.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Sir Shridath Ramphal condemned the coup and called for the government of Prime Minister Bavadra to be restored.

In his statement Howe said: "The British government was deeply concerned to hear of the attempt to displace by military force a duly-elected government in a Commonwealth country."

"We look for a swift return to parliamentary democracy and a full restoration of the government in Fiji."

In Moscow, the Soviet News Agency TASS released an article Friday on the military coup in Fiji which foreign analysts said suggested the Kremlin did not welcome the takeover.

TASS described the soldiers who led the coup as military rebels who had staged on mutiny, and made a point of observing that no foreign government had recognised the new government of Col. Rabuka.

Australia and New Zealand also denounced the

takeover.

Filipino police, fearing clashes, remain on alert

MANILA (R) — Police in Manila remained on a post-election red alert Friday, fearing possible clashes between rightists claiming poll cheating and their leftist student opponents.

Students said they would march on the headquarters of the official Election Commission (Comelec) to "defend the democracy from the return of the dictatorship."

The student rally followed a mass demonstration Thursday by right-wing opponents of President Corazon Aquino at which they threatened to turn "people power" against her if final election returns appeared fraudulent.

The demonstration included many supporters of former President Ferdinand Marcos, who was toppled in a popularly-backed military revolt which installed Mrs. Aquino as president in February 1986.

The right-wing groups have complained bitterly of election cheating after being routed in Monday's vote for a new legislature.

Independent observers dismissed the claims and called the vote, despite some acknowledged fraud, perhaps the cleanest ever in the Philippines.

Unofficial partial returns showed a 23-1 sweep by Mrs. Aquino's candidates for the 24 senate seats and an overwhelming majority in the 200-member lower house. The government commission on elections said official results will be known after two weeks.

"If they will ignore our ballots, we will use people power against them," opposition leader Juan Ponce Enrile told the rally of up to 20,000 people who blocked the

major Epifano De Los Santos Highway where last year's revolt was launched.

Mr. Enrile, co-author of the military uprising that triggered the people power revolt, was defence minister under Mr. Marcos and was retained by Mrs. Aquino after she became president. He was later sacked on grounds that his men were plotting a coup against her.

Amid chants of "people power part two," Mr. Enrile said: "Go home, wait for our announcement, wait for my call. What we are going to do next requires a lot of planning."

Speeches by Mr. Enrile and other opposition candidates were aired nationwide by several major radio networks. They turned the demonstration into a political meeting and took turns attacking the Aquino government.

In an appeal to Mr. Marcos supporters who often hold weekend rallies in Manila demanding the return of the former strongman, Mr. Enrile said: "Let us forget our past differences, let us unite."

During the six-hour demonstration, protesters toppled lamp posts and scattered boulders on the road, which they also blocked with commandeered buses and trucks.

Mrs. Aquino ordered the military to exercise maximum tolerance in dealing with the demonstrators and called on the opposition to go to court if they wanted to challenge the results of the elections, the presidential palace said.

"If the opposition believes they have legitimate grievances, then they should go to the Comelec or to the courts to seek redress," Mrs. Aquino said.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

'Frontier Gandhi' to get medical treatment

NEW DELHI (R) — Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi in India's struggle for independence, is to fly from Pakistan to India for medical treatment, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said. It said Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had ordered a plane to be sent for Mr. Khan, 97, a leader of the Pashtoon community which lives along the Pakistan-Afghan border. Mr. Khan, a close friend of Rajiv Gandhi's grandfather, Jawaharlal Nehru, became known as the "Frontier Gandhi" in the subcontinent's campaign for independence from the British. PTI did not say what was wrong with Mr. Khan but said an Indian cardiologist would accompany him to Bombay, where he would receive intensive care in hospital. PTI said the governor and chief minister of Maharashtra state, of which Bombay is the capital, would meet Mr. Khan at the airport in a gesture of respect. Mr. Khan has been jailed several times in Pakistan while leading a campaign for an independent Pashtoon homeland.

Swiss to give Yamani residence rights

BERNE (R) — Former Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani has received permission from Swiss federal authorities to reside in the Swiss Alpine resort of Crans-Montana, officials have said. A Justice Ministry spokesman said the Berne authorities had "agreed in principle" to a request for a permit Mr. Yamani made last February to settle down in Chermignon, a small village near the ski resort of Crans-Montana. The spokesman said it was up to local authorities at Sion in the Valais canton (region) to formally issue the permit. Mr. Yamani, who was dismissed from his ministerial post last October, made frequent visits to Geneva for meetings of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) during his 25 years as Saudi oil minister. He owns several properties in Switzerland, where he has a number of business interests.

Man stays 40 days in lions' cage

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A man who set himself a target of spending 40 days in a cage with seven lions reached his goal and decided to stay on for 24 days more. Mike Oosterlaak, 28, who works in a game park, is trying to raise \$50,000 rand (\$250,000) for a zoo near Pretoria to buy two gorillas. "He's been through hell," said Wayne Seale, curator at the zoo. "They have torn his mattress from under him, ripped three of his jackets and smashed his radio." He decided to extend his stay to 64 days to set a more difficult target for others to beat.

Eastwood films anti-drug message

LOS ANGELES (R) — Clint Eastwood made Nancy Reagan's day by joining her in filming the first of a series of announcements that will be shown in cinemas as part of her "just say no" campaign against drug abuse. Mrs. Reagan and the tough-guy boxer star, who is also the mayor of Carmel, California, told reporters at Universal Studios that the 30-second public service announcements would emphasise to children and adults that "drugs can kill." The first announcement, which are being produced by On Golden Pond director Mark Rydell for summer-time use, feature such celebrities as Dudley Moore, Bette Midler, Olivia Newton-John, Roseanne Arquette, Ally Sheedy and Jamie Woods. "The announcements are very dramatic," said Eastwood, who has starred in dozens of action films including the Dirty Harry detective series. "They will not only appeal to children, but also to many adults." Mrs. Reagan added: "Many children get hooked on drugs because their parents use them."

Lebanon plans 1,000 pound bank notes

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's Central Bank plans to issue 500 and 1,000 pound notes following a slump in the value of the Lebanese currency, a bank official has said. Hussein Kanaan, vice-governor of the Central Bank, told Reuters the notes were needed because of spiralling inflation. "The central bank has made the decision following high inflation and growing public demand for bigger notes," he said. Consumer prices are estimated to have risen 50 per cent over the past three months, while the pound has lost 30 per cent in international value since January. Mr. Kanaan said the Central Bank decree would have to be approved by parliament before the new notes were printed. The largest bank note currently in circulation, is worth 250 Lebanese pounds (\$2). "I used to carry a huge bag full of 250 and 100 pound notes," said Laila, a Beirut resident. "They were worth the price of the shirt on my back, no more." Many people preferred to use cheques rather than cash. "It's incredible," said one banker Fadi Fakhouri. "Every day I have hundreds of cheques to sort out. No matter how much cash people carry around they are always short of it."

Pianist cleared of camera charge

LONDON (R) — International concert pianist Roger Woodward was cleared at London's central criminal court of attempting to pervert the course of justice, the Press Association news agency reported. Woodward, a 44-year-old Australian, was alleged to have hidden from police a camera which they said his foster son stole during riots in Brixton, south London, in 1985. Judge Thomas Pigot said Woodward left the Old Bailey "without a stain on his character" after the prosecution offered no evidence.

Thailand expects reduced opium output

BANGKOK (R) — Thailand's opium output fell to about 20 tonnes last year thanks to government anti-drug drives and bad weather, the Narcotics Control Board said. Opium output was 25.9 tonnes in 1985-1986 and 34.7 tonnes in 1984-1985, a spokesman told Reuters, adding that final figures for the 1986-87 season, lasting from November to February, have not yet been collected. Despite the cut in Thai opium production, expanded poppy growing in rebel-held areas of neighbouring Burma should result in an increase in opium harvested this season in the so-called Golden Triangle from about 600 to 800 tonnes, Western diplomats have said. The triangle, a vast hill-area where Burma, Laos and Thailand meet, is the main opium-producing centre in South East Asia. The spokesman said poppy cutting by the army in the opium belt of northern Thailand destroyed a large part of the crop during the 1986-87 season.

Jailed tycoon dies in Taiwan

TAIPEI (R) — A tycoon jailed for 125 years after a bank scandal that brought down two Taiwan government ministers has died, the Justice Ministry announced. Tsai Chen-chou, former chairman of the Tenth Credit Cooperative Bank, one of two banks owned by Taiwan's giant Cathay Industrial Group, was admitted to hospital from jail with liver cancer. He was sentenced to 125 years for fraud and embezzlement involving the equivalent of \$325 million. The scandal erupted in 1985 after runs on Tenth Credit and its sister bank, Cathay Investment and Trust Company, which cleared the equivalent of \$650 million from their vaults in three weeks. More than 50 Cathay executives were jailed in connection with the case and the politicians and finance ministers were forced to resign.

China permits national lottery

PEKING (R) — China has given permission for its first nationwide lottery since an ideological row led to a ban on most public draws in 1985, the China Daily has said. The lottery to raise funds for China's millions of poor, disabled, orphaned or old people is the only one to have won government approval recently, the newspaper said. One billion tickets will be sold for one yuan (27 cents) each, the paper quoted a government official as saying.

Soviets may offer to launch U.S. satellites

HOUSTON (R) — Soviet space experts were expected to meet representatives of several major U.S. satellite firms here Friday to woo business for the Russian launch programme, the head of the firm arranging the contacts has said.

The Soviets, who claim to have a reliable and cheap space transportation system, are seeking a stake in the three billion dollar annual satellite launch business

we can manage to get their satellites launched," Mr. Dula said. President Reagan halted all commercial satellite launches by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) following the Jan. 28, 1986, explosion of the shuttle Challenger which killed seven astronauts.

NASA has only one Atlas-Centaur rocket remaining which is scheduled to launch a military satellite in August.

Mozambican rebels abduct 7 whites

HARARE (R) — Anti-government rebels abducted seven whites from a mission farm near the central Mozambican town of Gondola on Wednesday night, a mission spokesman said Friday.

The seven included an American nurse, an Australian farm manager, an 18-month-old baby girl and four Zimbabwean youths with a mission, national director Mike Oman told Reuters.

They were kidnapped late on Wednesday night when right-wing Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) guerrillas surrounded their house on the farm. They were taken away without shots being fired but a four-ton truck and a Peugeot estate car were blown up and destroyed.

But people who carry the virus while not suffering from AIDS can pose a hidden risk to emergency health workers and even such "first responders" as police who come into contact with blood, saliva and other bodily fluids, the study said.

Two of the polls — one of which put the Conservatives 18 percentage points ahead — indicated Mrs. Thatcher could return to power in a landslide on the scale of her 1983 re-election victory. She was first elected in May 1979.

In 1983, the Conservatives gained a sweeping 144-seat majority over all the other parties combined in the 650-seat House of Commons.

Mrs. Thatcher, who has consistently led in opinion polls for the

Emergency personnel warned against AIDS

CHICAGO (R) — Emergency room doctors, nurses and others who deal with badly-injured patients should routinely wear gloves and take other measures to protect themselves against AIDS, a U.S. study has recommended.

Doctors at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, said they feared complacency may have developed in the U.S. medical profession because of previous studies showing that health care workers run a low risk of getting acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) from patient contact.

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U.S. sends Waldheim documents to Vienna

VIENNA (R) — A U.S. Justice Department team has arrived in Vienna with documents used in the decision effectively to bar President Kurt Waldheim from the United States.

Chancellor Franz Vranitzky said that he would not be meeting the U.S. officials.

He told Austrian television that the team, which includes Deputy Assistant Attorney-General Mark Richard, would hand over the documents to Justice Minister Egmont Forgger.

Asked why he would not be meeting the team, Mr. Vranitzky said: "These are officials of the American Justice Department. One gentleman is a deputy attorney-general and I think that in these circumstances it is right that

our justice minister should receive these envoys from Washington."

Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock called on Washington to supply the documents after the Justice Department barred Dr. Waldheim last month from entering the United States as a private citizen because of suspicions about his World War II record.

Mr. Vranitzky met a commission of Austrian researchers who returned from Belgrade Thursday after sifting through some 12,000 files to check Waldheim's record.

After hearing the commission's report, Mr. Vranitzky said: "No new revelations have emerged on Dr. Waldheim's activities during his military service."

Meanwhile an environmental

ist deputy caused uproar in Austria's parliament Thursday by unrolling a Nazi Swastika and saying it was a catastrophe that Austrian President Kurt Waldheim had served under such a banner.

Green Party deputy Andreas Wahl unrolled the flag as he was opposing a resolution backing Dr. Waldheim against accusations.

Parliamentary President Leopold Gratz called